

Feather & Assoc.

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Chevy Chase Village

RE: Chevy Chase Circle – Boxwoods

Existing conditions

In June 2019, I toured the boxwood plantings on Chevy Chase Circle with Lynn Batdorf, a boxwood expert. Mr. Batdorf recommended:

1. Releasing predatory mites in late spring to control boxwood mites.
2. Applying lime to the soil-based upon soil tests.
3. Weeding removing the ivy from the beds.
4. Pruning to improve air circulation within the plants.

The Village has followed the recommendations for two growing seasons, and the condition of the plants is not improving. The boxwoods are still in decline. We have pruned out large dead branches in the planting three times since the meeting. A contributing factor to the decline, I believe, is the increase in precipitation the area has had since 2018. See photos.

We need some direction on how to move forward.

- Continue with the current program and reassess the planting in the fall.
- I don't recommend replacing the boxwoods with boxwood.
- Prepare to remove the boxwood and replace it with a new design and plants for the circle.

